

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-7.

Please add the following claims:

-- 8. (New) A device comprising:

a set of opposite sliding members connected by a nut and threaded rod assembly, wherein the rotational motion of the threaded rod translates into a change in the relative position of said sliding members;

said nut and threaded rod assembly comprising a housing and a pivotable nut connected to said housing; and the pivoting plane of said nut being orthogonal to the axial plane of said threaded rod.

9. (New) The device of claim 8, wherein said nut having axial preload; said axial preload realized by means of connecting a compressible member between said nut and said housing, said compressible member having spring properties; and said compressible member exerting a force on said nut, and said force on said nut being parallel to the axis of said threaded rod, and said force on said nut resulting in the elimination of the axial mechanical play between said nut and said housing.

10. (New) The device of claim 8, wherein said nut fitted in said housing with no permissible axial mechanical play between said nut and said housing; and said axial mechanical play referenced to the axis of said threaded rod.

11. (New) The device of claim 9 or 10, wherein said nut having radial preload; said radial preload realized by means of connecting a compressible member between said nut and said housing, said compressible member having spring properties; and said compressible member exerting a force on said nut, and said force on said nut being tangential to the arc described by the pivoting motion of said nut; said force on said nut resulting in the engagement of the internal thread of said nut and the external thread of said threaded rod; and said force on said nut resulting in the elimination of the mechanical play between the inner thread of said nut and the outer thread of said threaded rod.

12. (New) The device of claim 11, wherein said nut having an internal thread and a contiguous round excision, resulting in the partial removal of the internal thread; and said

nut having the diameter of the contiguous round excision larger than the diameter of said threaded rod; and said nut having the center point of the imaginary circle projected by the partial internal thread and the pivoting point in the same geometric plane.

13. (New) The device of claim 12, wherein a force greater than and opposite to the radial preload is applied to said nut, resulting in the disengagement of the inner thread of said nut and the outer thread of said threaded rod; and the thread separation freeing the sliding members of said device, to move without requiring the rotational motion of said threaded rod.

14. (New) The device of claim 13, wherein the force greater than and opposite to the radial preload, applied to said nut is removed, resulting in the engagement of the internal thread of said nut and the external thread of said threaded rod; and enabling the rotational motion of said threaded rod to be translated into a displacement of the sliding members of said device.

15. (New) The device of claim 12, wherein there is provided a plurality of said device concatenated with one another forming a multi-axis device. --

Remarks

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-7 were pending. With entry of this amendment, claims 1-7 are cancelled, and claims 8-15 have been added.

Support for new claim 8, may be found, for example, in Figures 1 and 2, Paragraphs [0016] and [0017] of the specification, and in claims 1-7 as originally presented.

Support for new claim 9 may be found, for example, in Figure 4, Paragraph [0017] of the Specification, and in claims 1-7 as originally presented.

Support for new claim 10 may be found, for example, in Paragraph [0017] of the Specification, and in claims 1-7 as originally presented.

Support for new claim 11 may be found, for example, in Figure 2, in Paragraph [0017] of the Specification, and in claims 1-7 as originally presented.